

West Virginia
**Criminal History Records
Data Quality Review**

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Background



■ Federal Guidance/Standards

- *Assessing Completeness & Accuracy of Criminal History Record Systems: Audit Guide (1992)*
 - Various Approaches to Conducting Criminal History Audits
- *Guidance for the Improvement of Criminal Justice Records (1991)*
 - BJA Standards (completeness, accuracy, timeliness)
- *Voluntary Standards for Improving the Quality of Criminal History Record Information (1991)*
 - Recommended Annual Audits of States' CHR Systems

Background

- WV's Criminal History Mandate (*WV Code 15-2-24*)

- Lack of Specific Guidance:
 - Reportable Arrests
 - Conducting Regular Audits



- National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) in WV

- The National Consortium of Justice Info. & Statistics 1992 Audit Report (SEARCH)
- Marshall University's 1997 Audit Report (1991 & 1994 Data)
- WV Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Committee (CJIS)

Methodology: Data Collection

- Reverse Auditing Methodology
- Multistage Stratified Sampling Procedure
 - Agency Type
 - Population Coverage
 - Geographic Region (Based on UCR Division)
 - Arrest Volume
- Levels of Strata (Source: FBI)
 - Stratum 1- Municipal Police Agencies/Population 25,000 Plus
 - Stratum 2- All Small to Midsize Municipal Police Agencies
 - Stratum 3- All County Sheriff's Departments & State Police
- Probability Sampling with Replacement

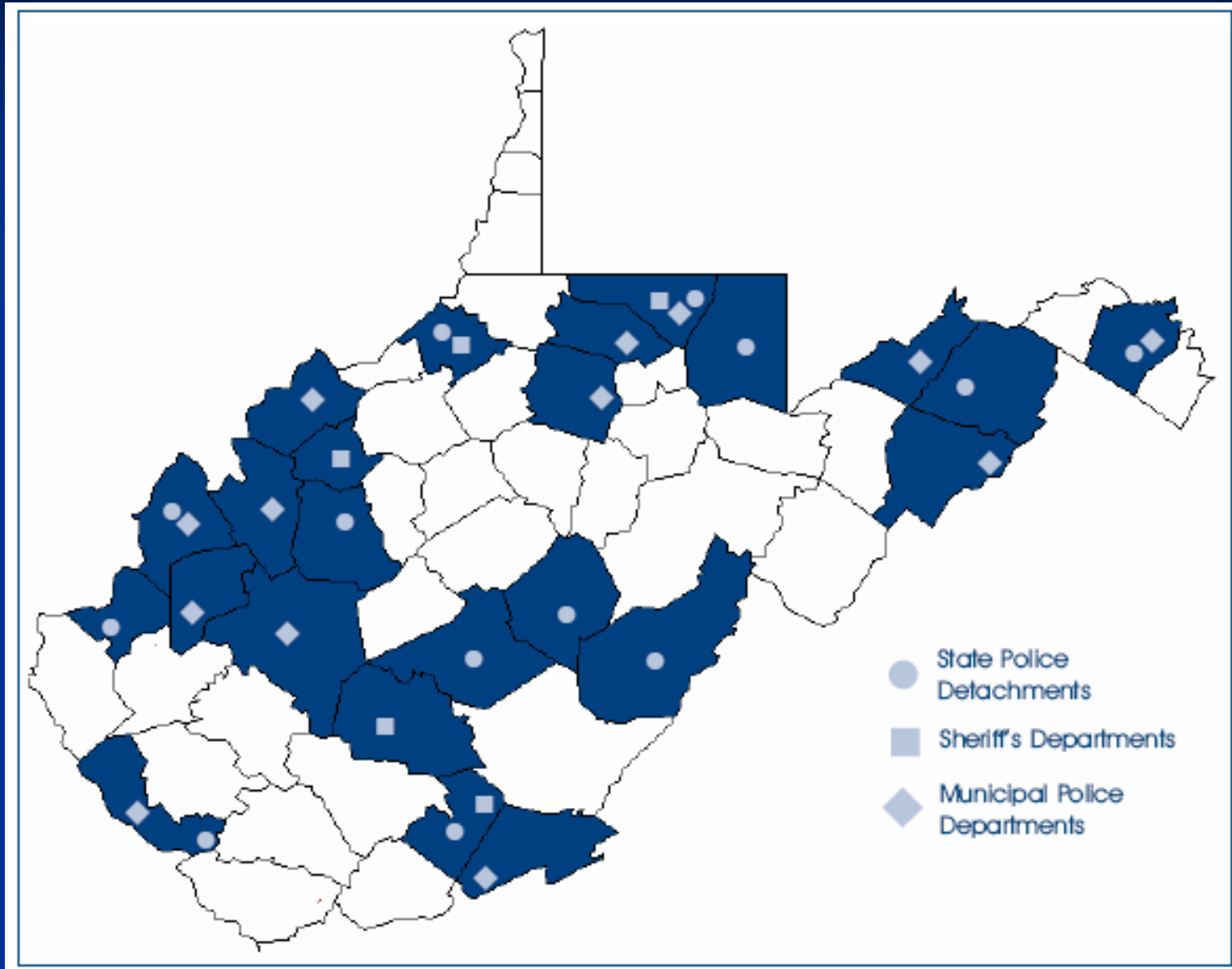
Methodology: Data Collection

Selected Law Enforcement Agencies by Geographic Region and Strata

<u>Region/Agency</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Region/Agency</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Northern				Southern			
Morgantown PD	1	181	11.9%	Mt. Hope PD	2	---	---
Bridgeport PD	2	38	2.5%	Williamson PD	2	15	1.0%
Fairmont PD	2	142	9.3%	Peterstown PD	2	1	0.1%
Anmoore PD	2	---	---	Fayette Co.	3	45	3.0%
Monongalia Co.	3	64	4.2%	Summersville SP	3	11	0.7%
Morgantown SP	3	54	3.5%	Gilbert SP	3	16	1.1%
Kingwood SP	3	21	1.4%	Hinton SP	3	19	1.2%
Tyler Co.	3	12	0.8%	Summers Co.	3	16	1.1%
Paden City SP	3	7	0.5%				
Eastern				Western			
Martinsburg PD	2	185	12.2%	Charleston PD	1	318	20.9%
Keyser PD	2	41	2.7%	Hurricane PD	2	7	0.5%
Wardensville PD	2	2	0.1%	Ripley PD	2	19	1.2%
Martinsburg SP	3	119	7.8%	Mason PD	2	6	0.4%
Romney SP	3	21	1.4%	Huntington SP	3	74	4.9%
Marlinton SP	3	10	0.7%	Point Pleasant SP	3	27	1.8%
Webster Springs SP	3	20	1.3%	Spencer SP	3	3	0.2%
Barbour Co.	3	---	---	Parkersburg SP	3	7	0.5%
				Wirt Co.	3	21	1.4%
				TOTAL		1,522	100.0%

Note: Percentages may not total to 100.0% due to rounding.

Map of Participating Agencies



Methodology: Sample

- Sampling of Arrest Records
 - April 1998 & 2002
 - 95.0% Confidence Level
- Description of Final Audit Sample
 - 31 Agencies
 - 1,522 Arrest Records
 - By Agency Type: 62.7% Municipal Police Agencies
26.9% State Police Detachments
10.4% Sheriff's Departments
 - By Offense Type: 20.2% Violent
21.4% Property
7.9% Drug
15.7% DUI
34.7% Other

Methodology: Measurement

■ Data Collection Form

- Demographic/Arrest
- Fingerprint Arrest Card
- Court Disposition
- Incarceration
- Completeness, Accuracy, & Missing Information

■ Overall Completeness & Accuracy

■ Timeliness Measures

- Arrest to Fingerprint Card Arrival
- Arrest to Court Disposition
- Arrest to CDR Arrival
- Disposition to CDR Arrival

■ Key Definitions

- Critical Components
- Completeness
- Accuracy
- Timeliness

Methodology

- Assessment of BJA Automation Standards
- Analysis Plan- Assessing Completeness, Accuracy, & Timeliness
 - Assessment of Total Sample of Arrests
 - Assessment of Criminal History Record Critical Components
 - Results Further Analyzed by Agency & Offense Type

Completeness Results

Completeness for Total Sample of Arrest Records (N = 1,522)

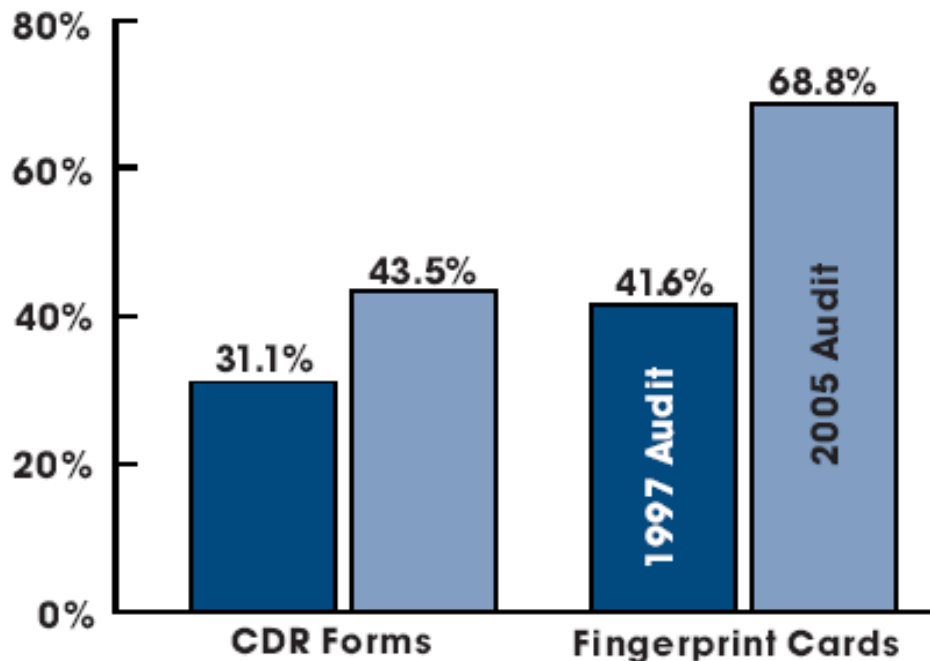
	<u>Arrest Records</u>		<u>Criminal History Records</u>	
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Complete	948	[63.3%]	585	[39.0%]
Incomplete	44	2.9%	29	1.9%
MOS	190	[12.7%]	570	[38.0%]
MRS	316	21.1%	316	21.1%
Total	1,498	100.0%	1,500	100.0%

Notes: A total of 24 cases were missing from the arrest records and 22 cases were missing from the criminal history records. These cases were excluded from this analysis.

- For the total sample of arrest records only 39.0% were found to be complete in the CHRs system.
- Nearly two-thirds (59.1%) of arrests contained missing information either from the original source documents or the rap sheet.

Completeness Results

Percentage of CDR Forms and Fingerprint Arrest Cards Received at CIB by Audit Year

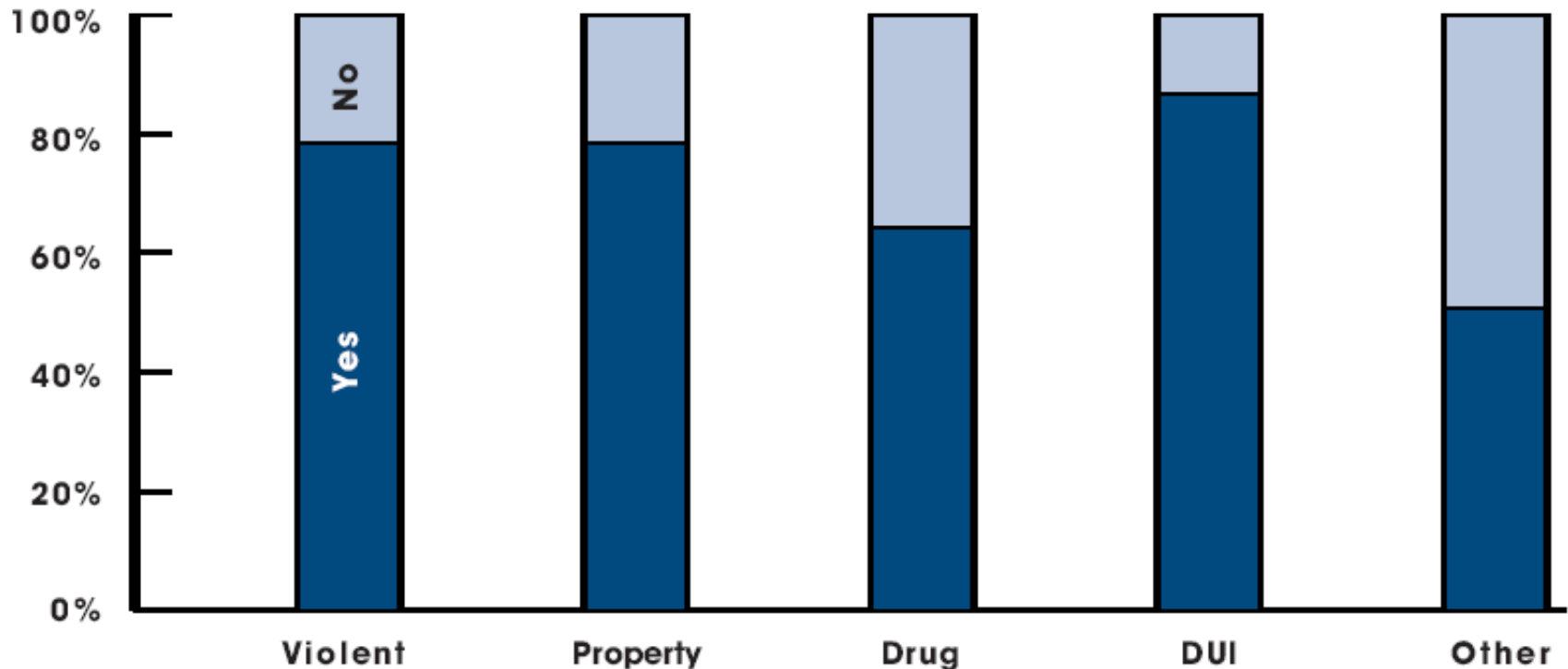


Notes: The 1997 audit collected data on April 1991 and April 1994 arrests, for a total of 267 records. The 2005 audit collected data on April 1998 and April 2002 arrests, for a total of 1,522 records.

- Fingerprint arrest cards submitted to the repository increased by 27.2% in 2005.
- Nearly 7 out of 10 CHRs contained a fingerprint arrest card.
- A CDR form did not arrive at the repository in over fifty percent (56.5%) of all sampled arrests.

Completeness Results

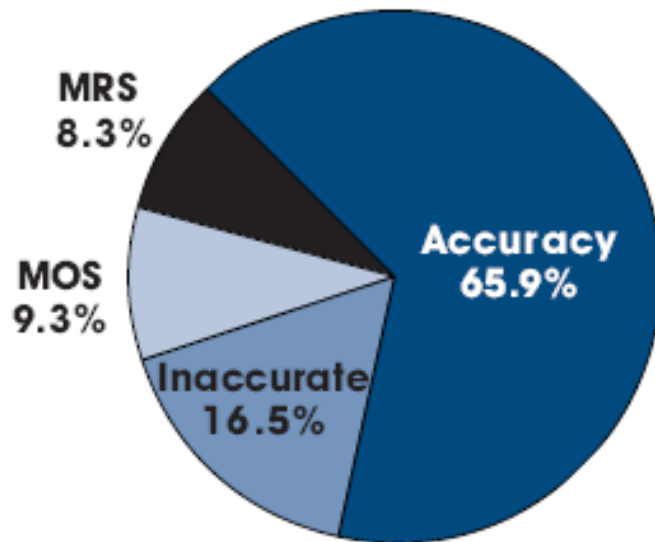
Percentage of Fingerprint Arrest Cards Received at CIB by Offense Category (N = 1,516)



Notes: A total of 6 arrest records contained missing offense information and were excluded from this analysis. Yes refers to those fingerprint arrest cards that were received at the CIB. No refers to those that were not received at the CIB

Accuracy Results

**Accuracy of Arrest Records
(N = 1,047)**

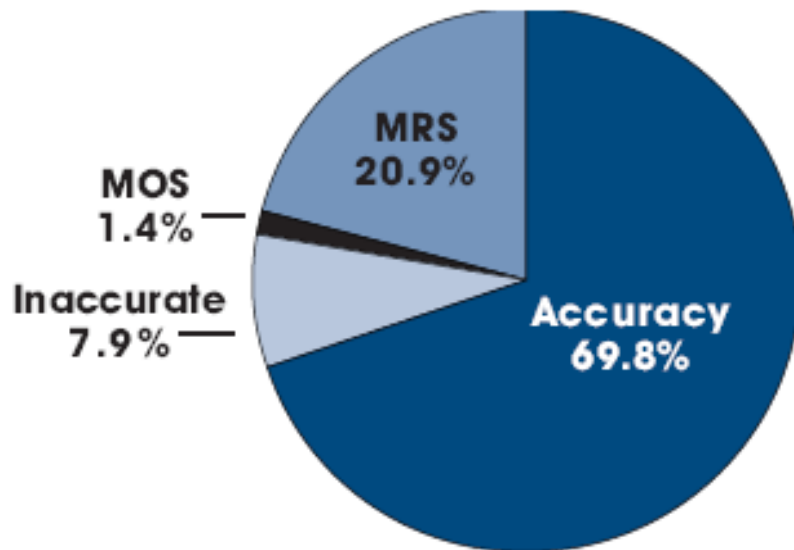


Notes: A total of 15 arrest records were not converted. These records were handled as missing and excluded from this analysis.

- Accuracy for arrest records found at the central repository was 65.9%, with 16.5% containing inaccurate information in at least one critical element.

Accuracy Results

**Accuracy of Dispositional Information
(N = 645)**

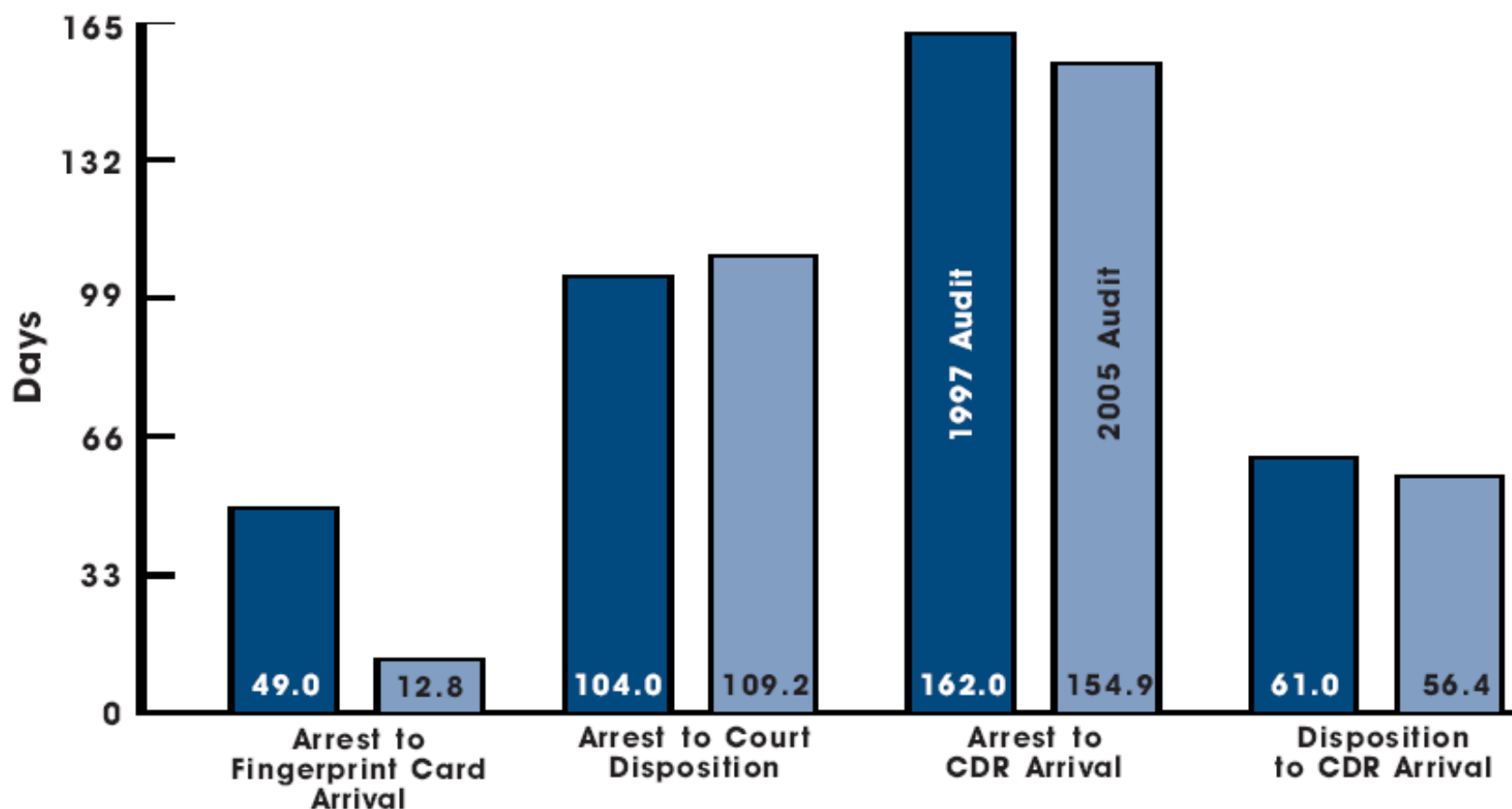


Notes: Dispositional information was missing from 25 cases. These cases were handled as missing and excluded from this analysis. Percentages may not total to 100.0% due to rounding.

- Court Disposition information was assessed as accurate in 69.8% of records in which a CDR form was found, with over 20.0% containing missing information.

Timeliness Results

Mean Number of Days for Timeliness Measures
by Audit Year



Notes: The 1997 audit collected data on April 1991 and April 1994 arrests. The 2005 audit collected data on April 1998 and April 2002 arrests. Cases over two years were excluded from this analysis. Totals for each measure of timeliness are as follows: Arrest to fingerprint card Arrival (N = 1,006), Arrest to Court Disposition (N = 632), Arrest to CDR Arrival (N = 599), Disposition to CDR Arrival (N = 587)

Timeliness Results

Number of Days for Fingerprint Arrest Cards to Arrive at CIB by Agency Type (N = 1,006)

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>
Municipal Police	9.4	8.0
Sheriff's Departments	22.6	14.0
State Police Detachments	17.9	12.0

Note: Cases over ninety days were excluded from this analysis.

- Over two-thirds (67.4%) of fingerprint arrest cards submitted by Municipal Police arrived within 10 days.
- Only 39.8% of cards from State Police arrived within 10 days.
- Slightly less than one-third (32.6%) of cards sent by Sheriff's Dept. arrived within 10 days.

Summary of Major Findings

- Most problematic area: Submission of fingerprint arrest cards & final court dispositions
- Only 39.0% of arrests were complete in the criminal history records system.
- Submissions of fingerprint arrest cards increased by 27.2%, at 68.8%.
- Submissions of court dispositions increased by 12.4%, but more than half (56.5%) never arrived.

Summary of Major Findings

- Overall accuracy for arrest & dispositional information was over 65.0%.
- The criminal history records system contains more timely information.
- Arrest to fingerprint card arrival showed greatest improvement (36.2 days).
- Arrival of fingerprint cards varies by agency type.
- Most dispositions met the 90 day BJA standard.

Implications & Future Direction

- Inability to Assess all Federal Standards (BJA)
- No Assessment of the Disparity in Policy & Procedures Across Agencies/Courts
- Major Source of Error with Court Reporting
 - Reverse Audit of Court System
- Greater Participation from Agencies

Implications & Future Direction

- Re-Examination of Court's Automation System
- Examination of Court & Law Enforcement

Personnel Policies & Procedures

- Telephone Survey/Questionnaire
 - Agency Fingerprint/Arrest Practices (Offenses)
 - Juvenile Procedures
 - Court Dispositional Reporting
 - Awareness & Compliance with Federal Standards
 - Technology Issues
 - Training Issues

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Contact Information

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